लिए कोयला कंपनियों द्वारा कई उपाय किए जाते हैं, जिनमें बंद पड़ी खानों को सील करना तथा जब कभी भी ऐसे मामले उसके ध्यान में आते हैं तो उनकी संबंधित पुलिस स्टेशन में रिपोर्ट दर्ज कराया जाना शामिल है। अतः सरकार द्वारा कोयला कंपनियों के विरुद्ध कार्रवाई किए जाने का प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता है।

Green Channel Treatment to Exporters

*245. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have drawn up a scheme for providing Green Channel treatment to exporters;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme;

(c) what is the number of exporters who are likely to be benefited from the scheme; and

(d) by when the scheme is likely to be implemented ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) to (d) The green-channel facility for exemption from examination of export cargo is presently available in respect of the following categories of exports :

(i) Export consignments which have been examined and sealed by central excise officers or by agencies, such as, the Central Silk Board, Textile Committee, Export Inspection Agencies, etc.

(ii) Export consignments (other than those relating to exports under the DEEC Scheme) belonging to established exporters having an unblemished record. The Star Trading Houses, recognised Export Houses etc. who have an unblemished track record would be covered under this category.

(iii) In respect of other export consignments also (other than those relating to exports under Drawback and DEEC Scheme) routine 100 per cent examination has been dispensed with.

These export consignments are not subjected to routine 100 per cent examination and only random checks are carried out on them.

The green channel for clearance of cargo at the examination stage of the goods has been introduced by the Government with respect of specified categories of importers like Government departments, public sector undertakings and private importers having an unblemished record for the import of selected commodities. Besides, self-assessment scheme has also been introduced available to these categories of importers whereby they themselves can assess the goods, determine the duty leviable and on that basis pay the same.

With a view to expedite imports and exports, there is a proposal to extend a sort of self-declaration based Green Channel facility to genuine exporters. It is proposed to extend this facility initially to the select categories of recognised exporters, namely, Export Houses, Trading Houses, Star Trading Houses, units in the Export Processing Zone and winners of national awards for outstanding export performance. The proposal seeks to extend the coverage of the existing facility.

Implementation of Essential Commodities Act in the States

*246. SHRI J. P. JAVALI : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some State Governments have either suspended or are not implementing the Essential Commodities Act ;

(b) if so the details thereof;

(c) what are the reasons given by the States for their reluctance to implement the Act; and

(d) what action is being taken to enforce this legislation in those States ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMERS AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (d) No, Sir. However, as per information available with the Central Government, the Government of Uttar Pradesh has issued orders not to launch cases against traders under the Essential Commodities Act, but to limit action to suspension|confiscation|cancellation of licenses issued under Control Orders of Essential Commodities Act, of traders found indulging in offences of blackmarketing| hoarding of essential commodities. Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi is examining the question of setting up a committee to look into the provisions of various Control Orders issued under the Essential Commodities Act to see whether any Control Order has lost its relevance and could be modified.

The Government of Uttar Pradesh has informed that it had noticed that there was misuse of powers given under the EC Act, which resulted in harassment of traders, by way of initiating cases for small offences, and that the GOI vide its order dated 9-2-88 had observed that action under EC Act, in small cases, caused harassment to traders. It has further informed that in view of abundant availability of essential commodities in the State, there is no need to launch cases against traders, under the EC Act.

The GOI has always maintained that prosecution under EC Act should not be launched in small cases and has issued guidelines to this effect. The GOI would impress upon all States including Uttar Pradesh that basic responsibility to maintain adequate supply of essential commodities lies with the State Governments and the State Governments should take recourse to the penal provisions of the EC Act, whenever the gravity of the offence so demands.

*Functioning of Offices connected with Exports on All Seven Days*

*248. SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received requests regarding functioning of all Government offices connected with exports in the States and Centre on all seven days of week;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether Government propose to take some action in matter; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The demand is that all Govt. and Semi-Govt. offices connected with exports should work round the clock.

(c) and (d) Cargo handling operations at major sea and airports are already being done seven days a week. Customs clearance facility for export cargo is also available at Delhi and Bombay airports for extended hours on regular basis. Government is favourably inclined to provide these facilities at other major air and sea routes.

Coal Mine Projects

*249. SHRI IQBAL SINGH : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of coal mines projects in different sectors in mixed economy;

(b) what are the State-wise|Sector-wise details thereof;